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**POTATO STOCKS
JANUARY 1, 2006**

The 13 major potato States held 219 million cwt of potatoes in storage January 1, 2006, down 7 percent from last year and 6 percent below January 1, 2004, for comparable States. Ohio and Pennsylvania were dropped from the potato stocks program starting with the 2005 storage season. Potatoes in storage account for 59 percent of the 2005 fall storage States' production, unchanged from last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 10 percent round white, 2 percent long white (Shepody), and 86 percent russets, with a smaller percentage of reds and long whites but a larger percentage of russets than a year ago for comparable States. Disappearance of 154 million cwt from the start of harvest to January 1, is down 7 percent from last year for comparable States. Shrink and loss, at 16.2 million cwt, is down 14 percent from last year for comparable States. Processors have used 81.7 million cwt of 2005 crop potatoes so far this season, down 5 percent from a year ago and 7 percent below 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 16.0 million cwt of the total processing, down 14 percent from last year and 13 percent below the same date in 2004.

Western States held 156 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, down 5 percent from last year. Central States accounted for 49.5 million cwt of potato stocks on January 1, down 14 percent from last year for comparable States. Eastern States stored 13.8 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, down 4 percent from last year for comparable States.

Fall potato stocks in **Colorado's San Luis Valley** totaled 14.0 million cwt as of January 1, 2006, down 11 percent from 15.8 million cwt one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 63 percent of the 2005 crop of 22.29 million cwt. Last year's stocks represented 66 percent of the 23.79 million cwt produced in 2004. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for **table stock** have averaged 69 percent of the production for the 2000-2004 period. The remaining 31 percent of production is used for seed, processing, and home use or is lost through shrinkage.

**CATTLE ON FEED
JANUARY 1, 2006**

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in **Colorado** feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,080,000 head as of January 1, 2006. The latest inventory was up 1 percent from December 1, 2005 but unchanged from January 1, 2005. The inventory included 690,000 steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 380,000 head, was down 7 percent from a year ago. The number of cows and bulls totaled 10,000, up 5,000 head from last year's number. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 140,000 head of fed cattle during December 2005. This was 22 percent above November 2005 marketings of 115,000 head but 3 percent below a year ago. An estimated 155,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during December, 15 percent above a year ago but 6 percent below November 2005 placements of 165,000. Of the number placed in December, 23 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 29 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 29 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 19 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for December, at 5,000 head, was down 5,000 from December 2004 and November 2005.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States,
1,000 Plus Capacity, January 1, 2005-2006**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 head			
On Feed Dec. 1 prev. yr.	1,100	1,070	11,334	11,726
Placements During Dec.	135	155	1,834	1,884
< 600 pounds	25	35	465	575
600 - 699 Pounds	40	45	558	554
700 - 799 Pounds	45	45	489	430
800 Plus Pounds	25	30	322	325
Marketings During Dec.	145	140	1,777	1,715
Other Disap. During Dec.	10	5	92	91
On Feed Jan 1.	1,080	1,080	11,299	11,804
Steers & Steer Calves	665	690	7,175	7,570
Heifers & Heifer Calves	410	380	4,046	4,147
Cows & Bulls	5	10	78	87

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.8 million head on January 1, 2006. The inventory was 4 percent above January 1, 2005 and 5 percent above January 1, 2004. The inventory included 7.57 million steers and steer calves, up 6 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and

heifer calves accounted for 4.15 million head, up 2 percent from January 1, 2005. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.88 million, 3 percent above 2004 and 8 percent above 2003. This is the highest placements for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.79 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 575,000, 600-699 pounds were 554,000, 700-799 pounds were 430,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 325,000. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.72 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 1 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 91,000 during December, 1 percent below 2004 but 1 percent above 2003.

GRAIN STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2005

All Wheat stocks in **Colorado's** farm and commercial storage facilities as of December 1, 2005 totaled 33.6 million bushels, up 3 percent from 32.6 million bushels on hand a year earlier. Farm stocks increased 5 percent to 11.0 million bushels and off-farm stocks were up 2 percent to 22.6 million. **All wheat** for the **United States** stored in all positions on December 1, 2005 totaled 1.43 billion bushels, down slightly from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 513 million bushels, down 3 percent from last December. Off-farm stocks, at 917 million bushels, are up 2 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2005 indicated disappearance is 494 million bushels, down 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Colorado corn stocks were up 11 percent from the previous year to 108.5 million bushels. Farm stocks were up nearly 5 percent to 70.0 million bushels and off-farm stocks increased 27 percent to 38.5 million bushels. **U.S. corn** stocks in all positions on December 1, 2005 totaled 9.81 billion bushels, up 4 percent from December 1, 2004. Of the total stocks, 6.33 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 3 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.49 billion bushels, are up 5 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2005 indicated disappearance is 3.41 billion bushels, compared with 3.31 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2005 totaled 2.50 billion bushels, up 9 percent from December 1, 2004. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 1.35 billion bushels, up 3 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 1.16 billion bushels, are up 15 percent from last December. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2005 totaled 840 million bushels, down 10 percent from the same period a year earlier. **U.S. barley** stocks in all positions on December 1, 2005 totaled 208 million bushels, down 15 percent from December 1, 2004. On-farm stocks are estimated at 104 million bushels, 21 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 104 million bushels, are 9 percent below December 2004. The September - November 2005 indicated disappearance is 46.9 million bushels, 6 percent above the same period a year earlier. **Oats** stored in the **U.S.** all positions on December 1, 2005 totaled 95.7 million bushels, 9 percent below the stocks on December 1, 2004. Of the total stocks on hand, 60.1 million bushels are stored on farms, down slightly from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled

35.6 million bushels, down 20 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during September - November 2005 totaled 17.8 million bushels, up 64 percent from the same period a year ago.

Colorado's on farm storage capacity was rated at 170 million bushels as of December 1, 2005, unchanged from one year earlier. The **off-farm storage capacity** increased nearly 1 percent from December 1, 2004 to 115.0 million bushels. On farm capacity for the **United States** increased slightly from a year ago to 11.4 billion bushels and off-farm storage capacity was up fractionally to 8.53 billion bushels as of December 1, 2005.

Grain Stocks

Colorado and United States, December 1, 2004-2005

Grain and Position ^{1/}	Colorado		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
1,000 Bushels				
All wheat				
On farms	10,500	11,000	531,020	513,000
Off farms	22,110	22,620	899,306	916,531
Total.....	32,610	33,620	1,430,326	1,429,531
Corn				
On farms	67,000	70,000	6,144,000	6,325,000
Off farms	30,350	38,490	3,308,488	3,487,835
Total.....	97,350	108,490	9,452,488	9,812,835
Barley				
On farms	^{2/}	^{2/}	130,700	103,650
Off farms	^{2/}	^{2/}	115,276	104,335
Total.....	^{2/}	^{2/}	245,976	207,985
Oats				
On farms	^{2/}	^{2/}	60,400	60,100
Off farms	115	70	44,513	35,635
Total.....	^{2/}	^{2/}	104,913	95,735
Sorghum				
On farms	^{2/}	^{2/}	78,700	55,000
Off farms	950	1,000	203,505	233,891
Total.....	^{2/}	^{2/}	282,205	288,891
Soybeans				
On farms	^{3/}	^{3/}	1,300,000	1,345,000
Off farms	^{2/}	^{2/}	1,004,640	1,157,389
Total.....	^{2/}	^{2/}	2,304,640	2,502,389

^{1/} Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

^{2/} Not published separately. ^{3/} Not estimated.

WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS 2006 CROP

Colorado producers seeded 2.40 million acres of winter wheat during the fall of 2005 for harvest in 2006, down 6 percent from the 2.55 million acres seeded for the 2005 crop. Planting began on schedule in most areas. Germination and emergence was good to excellent putting most of the crop in mostly good condition for entering the winter. As usual, prospects for the 2005 crop will be heavily dependent on winter and spring weather. **United States** winter wheat seeded area for 2006 is expected to total 41.4 million acres, up 2 percent from 2005. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 29.9 million; Soft Red Winter, 7.3 million; and White Winter, 4.2 million.

Winter Wheat Area Seeded, 2004-2006 Crops 1/

State	Crop of			06/05
	2004	2005	2006	
	1,000 Acres			%
Alabama	120	100	100	100
Arizona	5	5	4	80
Arkansas	670	220	370	168
California	560	495	430	87
Colorado	2,300	2,550	2,400	94
Delaware	50	52	48	92
Florida	18	18	18	100
Georgia	330	280	300	107
Idaho	750	770	750	97
Illinois	920	630	860	137
Indiana	450	360	460	128
Iowa	28	20	25	125
Kansas	10,000	10,000	10,200	102
Kentucky	530	390	390	100
Louisiana	180	110	110	100
Maryland	160	155	180	116
Michigan	660	600	610	102
Minnesota	27	20	30	150
Mississippi	160	70	60	86
Missouri	1,050	590	1,000	169
Montana	1,900	2,150	2,000	93
Nebraska	1,850	1,850	1,750	95
Nevada	6	8	16	200
New Jersey	28	28	23	82
New Mexico	490	450	440	98
New York	105	100	130	130
North Carolina	600	560	550	98
North Dakota	245	310	180	58
Ohio	920	860	990	115
Oklahoma	6,200	5,700	5,800	102
Oregon	820	830	800	96
Pennsylvania	140	150	160	107
South Carolina	190	170	140	82
South Dakota	1,650	1,550	1,350	87
Tennessee	400	240	300	125
Texas	6,300	5,500	5,800	105
Utah	130	145	135	93
Virginia	210	180	200	111
Washington	1,800	1,850	1,850	100
West Virginia	8	7	8	114
Wisconsin	240	200	250	125
Wyoming	150	160	150	94
United States	43,350	40,433	41,367	102

1/ Total area seeded for all purposes.

WINTER WHEAT VARIETIES 2006 CROP

Akron continued to be the most popular variety seeded in Colorado and was planted on 13.6 percent of the acreage for the 2006 crop compared with 20.1 percent of the acreage a year earlier. Akron has accounted for nearly 20 to 25 percent of the total acreage for the past six years. **Tam 107** remained the second most popular variety by being seeded on 9.8 percent of the acreage for the 2006 crop, down from 10.5 percent for the 2005 crop. **Prairie Red** moved up one

position to a third place ranking for the 2006 crop by accounting for 9.3 percent of the acres seeded compared with 6.7 percent of the acres a year earlier. **Jagalene** advanced three positions to the fourth leading variety for the 2006 crop by accounting for 8.6 percent of the acreage seeded compared with 4.4 percent last year. **Jagger** jumped six positions to the fifth leading variety with 7.2 percent of the acreage seeded from 2.9 percent last year. The top five varieties accounted for 48.5 percent of the acreage seeded. The top five varieties seeded for the 2005 crop accounted for 51.9 percent of the total acreage. **Above**, a Clearfield variety first available to producers for the 2003 crop, claimed the same percentage and rank as the previous year by being planted on 6.1 percent of the acreage. **Prowers and Prowers 99**, also having 6.1 percent of the acres seeded, shared the sixth place ranking with **Above** after falling from third place last year with 8.3 percent of the acreage. **Tam 111** rose to eighth with 5.1 percent of the acreage seeded compared with 1.2 percent last year. **Ankor** retained ninth place for the 2006 crop with a 4.8 percent showing compared to 4.1 percent for 2005. **Trego** placed tenth with 4.3 percent of the seeded acres for the 2006 crop, down from fifth place and 6.3 percent of the acreage last year. These 10 varieties represented 74.9 percent of the state's total acreage seeded for the 2006 crop. In 2005 the top ten varieties accounted for 74.2 percent of the total seeded acreage.

Winter Wheat: Percent planted By Variety, Colorado, 2001-2006 1/

Variety	2001 Crop	2002 Crop	2003 Crop	2004 Crop	2005 Crop	2006 Crop
	Percent					
Akron	24.4	25.3	22.3	19.8	20.1	13.6
Tam 107	24.9	13.6	13.0	10.7	10.5	9.8
Prairie Red	11.5	13.9	16.0	14.8	6.7	9.3
Jagalene	----	----	----	1.2	4.4	8.6
Jagger	2.9	6.7	7.7	8.9	2.9	7.2
Above	----	----	3.8	5.8	6.1	6.1
Prowers & 99	4.0	5.9	3.9	4.0	8.3	6.1
Tam 111	----	----	----	0.9	1.2	5.1
Ankor	----	----	----	1.0	4.1	4.8
Trego	0.3	2.4	3.3	5.7	6.3	4.3
Yumar	4.6	4.8	3.6	3.6	4.4	4.1
Yuma	3.2	2.1	1.3	2.1	1.1	2.6
Lamar	4.4	3.6	3.3	2.6	3.3	2.3
Halt	5.1	2.6	2.4	2.6	0.6	1.4
Weston	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.3
Other 2/	14.3	18.7	18.6	15.7	19.3	13.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Dashes indicate either none or minor amount reported.

2/ Includes minor and older varieties that have become less popular.

HAY STOCKS

DECEMBER 1, 2005

United States Stocks of all hay stored on farms totaled 105 million tons on December 1, 2005, down 8 percent from a year ago. Disappearance of hay from May 2005 - December 2005 totaled 73.3 million tons, compared to 69.7 million tons for the same period a year ago. **Colorado** farm and ranch operators had 2.37 million tons of hay on hand as of December 1, 2005, down 6 percent from the 2.53 million tons on hand one year earlier but 28 percent above two years ago.

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in the 23 major States during December totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from December 2004. November revised production, at 13.0 billion pounds, was up 4.6 percent from November 2004. The November revision represented a decrease of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,665 pounds for December, 55 pounds above December 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.16 million head, 67,000 head more than December 2004, and 4,000 head more than November 2005.

Milk production in the **U.S.** during the October - December quarter totaled 43.6 billion pounds, up 3.9 percent from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.05 million head, 31,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk production in **Colorado** during December of 2005 totaled 198 million pounds, up 5.3 percent from last month. The average number of cows for December at 105,000 head, increased 3 percent from the last year. Production per cow averaged 1,890 pounds for the month of December, 2 percent above December 2004.

Milk Production, December, 2004-2005

Item	Unit	2004	2005
Colorado:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 Head	102	105
Production Per Cow	Pounds	1,845	1,890
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. Lbs.	188	198
United States:			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u>	1,000 Head	8,097	8,164
Production Per Cow	Pounds	1,610	1,665
Production <u>2/</u>	Mil. Lbs.	13,037	13,592

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

The Annual Crop Summary was released on January 12, 2006 but there was not sufficient space in this issue of AG UPDATE to include the final crop summary for 2005. The complete USDA report is available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

- Jan. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Jan. 23 - Cold Storage
- Jan. 23 - Chickens & Eggs
- Jan. 24 - Fruit Crops - Annual
- Jan. 27 - Cattle Inventory
- Jan. 27 - Sheep and Goats Inventory
- Jan. 27 - Vegetables - Annual
- Jan. 31 - Agricultural Prices

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